Abstract

Disclosed herein are expanded polystyrene particles having a polyvinyl acetate resin-based functional skin layer formed on the surface of expanded polystyrene particles. Further disclosed are a process for producing the expanded polystyrene particles and the use of the expanded polystyrene particles.

According to the expanded polystyrene particles of the present invention, inherent properties of the expanded polystyrene, e.g., light weight, thermal insulation properties, shape stability, buffering properties and sound absorption, are ensured, and superior low-temperature bonding properties, air-tightness, waterproofness and durability are provided by the vinyl acetate based polymer constituting the skin layer. Optionally, various functional additives, including flame retardants, water repellents, antibacterial agents, colorants, flavoring agents, etc., can be added to the polyvinyl acetate resin to impart a variety of functions to the expanded polystyrene particles in a simple manner.